



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY**  
MICHIGAN VETERANS TRUST FUND

JEFF BARNES  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**

Lansing Central MVTF Office  
Lansing, Michigan

October 6, 2015  
11:05 a.m.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

***Board of Trustees and Staff***

Chairman John E. James, present  
Vice Chairman Charles Kosal, present  
Trustee Robert Williams, excused  
Trustee Barry Wood, present  
Trustee Shawn Wilson, present  
Trustee Brandi McBride, present  
Edwin Fore, present

Lindell Holm, *Director*  
Dawn Bollis, *absent*  
Mary Kay Robinson, *Financial Supervisor*  
Erik Napieralski, *Dept. Tech*  
Tom Diaz, *Dept. Tech*

Chairman John James called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

**Notice of Open Meetings Act Compliance**

Ms. Robinson stated that the meeting notices were posted pursuant to Public Act 267 of 1976, the Open Meetings Act.

**Introduction of Guests**

Charles Lerchen, Director, Grand Traverse/Leelanau/Benzie Michigan Veterans Trust Fund Committees  
Michael Smith Jr., President of MACVC

**Public Comments**

Mr. Lerchen informed the Board of Trustees of the positive feedback he has received regarding the training session that was held in Traverse City this past summer.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Lerchen discussed with the Board of Trustees what they see as the pros and cons of House Bill 4642.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Lerchen affirmed the Board's assertion that the Board of Trustees already possesses the authority needed to create districts and do not see a necessity for HB 4642.

## **Approval of Minutes**

A MOTION (Wood/Fore) to approve the Public Minutes, of September 1, 2015, passed and carried.

## **Appeals & Reviews - Reconsideration**

**There were no personal hearings conducted at the October 6, 2015 emergent need work session. A total of 27 appeals and reviews were considered.**

### **Case A-1 (Sanilac County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for auto repairs (\$5,420.77). A close review of your request has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency. A review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

### **Case A-2 (Oakland County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent (\$633.33). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve. Previous grant assistance has not resolved the applicant's situation.

### **Case A-3 (Ingham County)**

**APPROVED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and approved your application for \$1,424.56; for 1st auto repair (\$592.69) and 2nd auto repair (\$831.87).

### **Case RR-4 (Huron County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for auto repairs (\$1,385.08). A review of your request for assistance has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency. A review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve. Previous grant assistance has not resolved the applicant's situation.

### **Case RH-5 (Manistee County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and disapproved your application for a new roof (\$8,196.24). A review of your request for assistance has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency. A review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expense(s).

### **Case RR-6 (Ingham County)**

**APPROVED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for new clothing and shoes (\$500.00).

### **Case RR-7 (Wayne County)**

**PARTIAL**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partial approved your application for \$2,600.00; rent (\$1,200.00), food (\$200.00) and auto down payment (\$1,200.00). The auto down payment is contingent upon proof of insurance.

### **Case A-8 (Osceola County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for delinquent auto payments (\$990.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. The financial statement also reveals that the situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-9 (Wayne County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for several home repairs (\$14,625.00). Review of your request for assistance has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency. A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume her financial responsibilities. The statement also reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-10 (Saginaw County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for \$1,138.66; for water/sewer (\$825/13) and heat/water (\$313.53). A review of your request for assistance has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency. A close review of the applicant's financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-11 (Calhoun County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for home repairs (\$25,875.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. The disclosed statement also reveals that the situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-12 (Jackson County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for a new house roof (\$7,600.00). A review of your request has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency.

**Case A-13 (Macomb County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent (\$1,123.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that a payment schedule can be arranged with existing income. The statement also reveals that sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expense(s). Previous grant assistance has not resolved the applicant's situation.

**Case RH-14 (Manistee County)**

**PARTIAL**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees reviewed your request and partially approved your application for \$714.08; for mortgage (\$514.08) and electric (\$200.00). The new tires (\$617.68) were denied because the emergent need had not been met.

**Case A-15 (Ingham County)**

**APPROVED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees approved your application for rent (\$1,715.00).

**Case RO-16 (Muskegon County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for one burial headstone (\$1,364.00). A review of your request has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency.

**Case A-17 (Gratiot County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for dental work (\$2,914.00). A medical emergency or health problem that actually threatens the health or income, or both, of the applicant has not been demonstrated.

**Case A-18 (Oakland County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent (\$1,500.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-19 (Wayne County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for heat and electric (\$2,355.56). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. The statement also discloses that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve. Previous grant assistance has not resolved the applicant's situation.

**Case A-20 (Muskegon County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for natural gas line surcharge (\$1,304.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. The statement also reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-21 (Oakland County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for auto repairs (\$1,193.92). A review of your request has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency. A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve. Previous grant assistance has not resolved the applicant's situation.

**Case A-22 (Osceola County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for first month's rent and security deposit (\$1,525.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-22 (Osceola County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for first month's rent and security deposit (\$1,525.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-23 (Muskegon County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent (\$800.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. The statement also reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case RR-24 (Kalamazoo County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for auto repairs (\$193.38). A review of your request has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating a financial emergency. A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that sufficient income and/or assets are available to meet necessary expense(s).

**Case A-25 (Benzie County)**

**PARTIAL**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees partially approved your application for \$5,875.50; for heat (\$1,129.06), auto repair (\$3,277.55) and electric (\$1,468.89). The land contract (\$3,000.00) was disapproved because a close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-26 (Macomb County)**

**DENIED**

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for rent (\$1,500.00). A close review of the applicant's disclosed financial statement reveals that there is no reasonable expectation that a grant would enable the applicant to resume his financial responsibilities. The statement also reveals that the applicant's situation requires a more long term solution than the Trust Fund is designed to resolve.

**Case A-27 (Wayne County)**

DENIED

- The MVTF Board of Trustees disapproved your application for tree removal (\$3,700.00). Review of your request for assistance has determined that your situation does not constitute an unforeseen circumstance creating financial emergency.

A MOTION (Kosal/Wilson) to accept the emergency grant approvals and denials that were made in the closed session, passed and carried.

The total amount authorized for emergency grants approved was 6/27 for **\$12,829.14**. Approved 2/19 Appeals for (\$3,139.56), 1/2 Review/Housing for (\$714.08), 0/0 Review/Medical for (\$0.00), 0/0 Review/Conflict of Interest for (\$0.00), 2/4 Review/Repetitive for (\$3,100.00) and 1/2 Review/Other for (\$5,875.50).

**Accounting Report**

None

**Ineligibles/Administrative Errors – Reconsideration**

COMMITTEE	AMOUNT INVOLVED	DESCRIPTION OF ERROR	RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION
Chippewa County	\$565.74	Administrative error for eligibility	Waive Repayment

A MOTION (Kosal/McBride) to accept the recommendation to waive repayment on the administrative errors passed and carried

**County & District Committees--Committee Appointments**

A MOTION (Wood/Fore) to accept the following appointment and re-appointment passed and carried.

The American Legion recommends the following **new appointments:**

Name	County	Term of Service
Larry Fessenden	Oceana County	12-31-2018
Donald Ormes	Gogebic County	12-31-2018

Recommendation of the following **New Independent appointment:**

Name	County	Term of Service
Jeffery Rose	Lenawee County	12-31-2018

Recommendation of the following **Independent reappointment:**

Name	County	Term of Service
Allan Abels	Calhoun County	12-31-2018

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

None

### **MVTF Board Activities**

Director Holm and some members of the Board attending the last working session for HB 4642 held on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **MVTF Staff Activities**

Director Holm informed the Board of Trustees regarding training that did take place September 22, 2014 in Lake County.

Director Holm informed the Board of Trustees that he attended the MACV conference on September 23, 2014 and spoke on the status of the MVTF and the Regional Model.

### **Good of the Order**

Director Holm informed the Board of Trustees of a thank you they received thanking them for a grant they had awarded to a veteran the prior month.

### **Adjourn**

Meeting Adjourned at 12:15 pm

*Approved:*

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*John James, Chairman*

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*Date*